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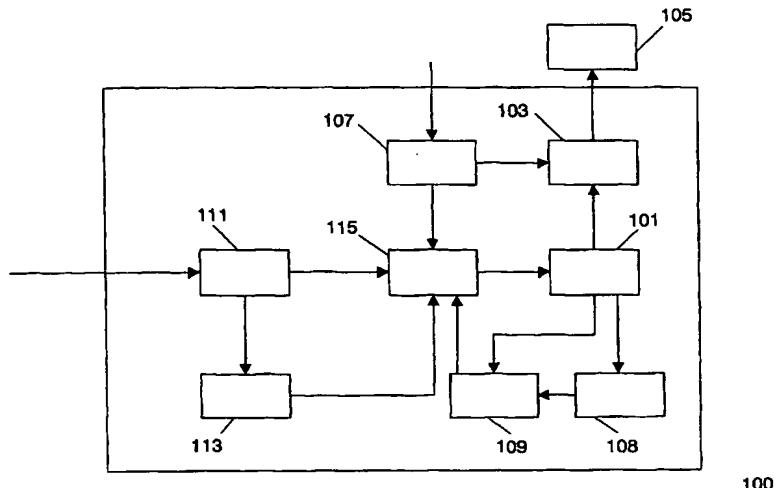
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[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR GROUPING CONTENT ITEMS



100

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(57) Abstract: The invention relates to a system for grouping content items. A consumer equipment or computer (100) comprises a grouping principle processor (109) that determines a content item grouping principle used by a user to group content items such as music files, video files or email. The content item grouping principle is determined in response to a grouping category scheme, such as a folder structure used to store content items. The apparatus (100) further comprises a classification characteristic processor (113) for determining a classification characteristic of a new content item. For example the classification characteristic may relate to an artist of a music file and the content item grouping principle may comprise a list of folders which comprise music files associated with specific artists. The apparatus (100) additionally comprises a grouping processor (115) for grouping the first content item with other content items by comparing the determined classification characteristic with the information of the content item grouping principle.



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A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC 7 G06F17/30

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

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Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, INSPEC, WPI Data, IBM-TDB, COMPENDEX

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	THE ABCS OF CONTENT ORGANIZATION - VERITY WHITE PAPER, 'Online! July 2002 (2002-07), pages 1-4, XP002295038 Retrieved from the Internet: URL: http://www.verity.com/pdf/white_papers/MK0391a_ContentOrg_WP.pdf 'retrieved on 2004-09-01! page 3	1-14
X	US 6 446 061 B1 (DOERRE JOCHEN ET AL) 3 September 2002 (2002-09-03) column 14, line 25 - column 15, line 22 column 17, line 8 - line 49	1-14



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Patent family members are listed in annex.

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C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	ISHIKAWA H ET AL: "Document warehousing based on a multimedia database system" DATA ENGINEERING, 1999. PROCEEDINGS., 15TH INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON SYDNEY, NSW, AUSTRALIA 23-26 MARCH 1999, LOS ALAMITOS, CA, USA, IEEE COMPUT. SOC, US, 23 March 1999 (1999-03-23), pages 168-173, XP010326187 ISBN: 0-7695-0071-4 page 169, left-hand column, paragraph 5 - right-hand column, paragraph 3 -----	1-14
A	GIFFORD D K ET AL: "SEMANTIC FILE SYSTEMS" PROCEEDINGS OF THE SYMPOSIUM ON OPERATING SYSTEMS PRINCIPLES. PACIFIC GROVE, OCT. 13 - 16, 1991, NEW YORK, ACM, US, vol. SYMP. 13, 13 October 1991 (1991-10-13), pages 16-25, XP000313819 page 18, right-hand column, paragraph 1 - page 21, left-hand column, last paragraph -----	1-14
A	WO 03/019405 A (VERITY INC) 6 March 2003 (2003-03-06) page 1 - page 2 page 5, paragraph 20 -----	1-14
A	IEEE MULTIMEDIA - CONTENT BASED MULTIMEDIA INDEXING AND RETRIEVAL, vol. 9, no. 2, 2002, pages 18-22, XP002295067 DJERABA C cited in the application the whole document -----	1-14

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Information on patent family members

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WO 03019405	A	06-03-2003	US 2003045951 A1	06-03-2003
		EP 1428136 A1		16-06-2004
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